

## DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

We, Todd L. Lydic, Tamo Bianchi and James A. Decker declare:

We are citizens of the United States of America, Canada and the United States of America, respectively, and residents of Johnstown, County of Cambria, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; Oakville, Province of Ontario, Canada; and Windber, County of Somerset, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania whose post-office addresses are 149 Anderson, Johnstown Pennsylvania 15909; 2055 Goldfinch Court, Oakville, Ontario, L6H-3Z5, Canada; and 4233 Clear Shade Drive, Windber, Pennsylvania 15963, respectively.

We believe ourselves to be the original, first and joint inventors of the improvement in RAILROAD CAR HAVING COLD FORMED CENTER SILL described and claimed in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/664,118, filed September 11, 2000, which is a continuation of U.S. Continuation-in-Part Patent Application Serial No. 08/953,337, filed October 17, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 6,119,345, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/712,369, filed September 11, 1996.

We have reviewed and understand the contents of the specification, including the claims.

We do not know and do not believe that the same was ever known or used in the United States before our invention thereof; or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before our invention thereof or more than one year prior to this application; or in public use or on sale in the United States more than one year prior to this application.

Said invention has not been patented or been made the subject of an inventor's certificate in any country foreign to the United States on an application filed by us or our legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months prior to this application.

We acknowledge our duty to disclose information of which we are aware which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

No application for patent or inventor's certificate thereon has been filed by us or our legal representatives or assigns in any country foreign to the United States.

We declare further that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

We hereby appoint Blynn L. Shideler, Registration No. 35,034; David C. Hanson, Registration No. 23,024; William H. Logsdon, Registration No. 22,132; Russell D. Orkin, Registration No. 25,363; Richard L. Byrne, Registration No. 28,498; Frederick B. Ziesenheim, Registration No. 19,438; Kent E. Baldauf, Registration No. 25,826; Barbara E. Johnson, Registration No. 31,198; Paul M. Reznick, Registration No. 33,059; John W. McIlvaine,

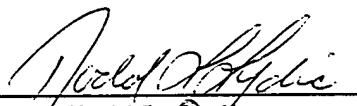
Registration No. 34,219; Julie W. Meder, Registration No. 36,216; Lester N. Fortney, Registration No. 38,141; Randall A. Notzen, Registration No. 36,882; James G. Porcelli, Registration No. 33,757; Kent E. Baldauf, Jr., Registration No. 36,082; Christian E. Schuster, Registration No. 43,908; Dean E. Geibel, Registration No. 42,570; Thomas J. Clinton, Registration No. 40,561; Nathan J. Prepelka, Registration No. 43,016; Jessica M. Sosenko, Registration No. 47,102; Kirk M. Miles, Registration No. 37,891; and J. Matthew Pritchard, Registration No. 46,228, whose post-office address is 700 Koppers Building, 436 Seventh Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219-1818, Telephone No. 412-471-8815, our attorneys with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, to amend the specification, to appeal in case of rejection, as they may deem advisable, to receive the patent when granted and generally to do all matters and things needful in the premises, as fully and to all intents and purposes as we could do.

**All correspondence and telephone calls should be addressed to Blynn L. Shideler.**

We hereby subscribe our names to the foregoing specification and claims, declaration and power of attorney.

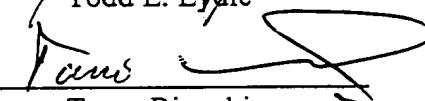
Date FEB 7, 2001

Inventor

  
Todd L. Lydic

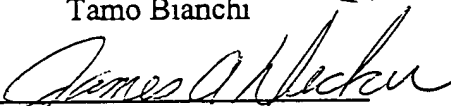
Date FEB. 12, 2001

Inventor

  
Tamo Bianchi

Date FEB. 7, 2001

Inventor

  
James A. Decker